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A SONG
ON
OUR COUNTRY AND HER FLAG.

BY
FRANCIS LIEBER.

WRITTEN IN 1861, AFTER THE RAISING OF THE FLAG ON COLUMBIA
COLLEGE, NEW YORK.

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TUNE—*Gaudemus igitur*; or, *Ein freies Leben führen wir*

1.

We do not hate our enemy—
 May God deal gently with us all.
We love our Land; we fight her foe;
 We hate his cause, and that must fall.

2.

Our country is a goodly land;
 We'll keep her alway whole and hale;
We'll love her, live for her or die;
 To fall for her is not to fail.

3.

Our Flag! The Red shall mean the blood
 We gladly pledge; and let the White
Mean purity and solemn truth,
 Unsullied justice, sacred right.

4.

Its Blue, the sea we love to plow,
 That laves the heaven-united land,



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Between the Old and Older World,
From strand, o'er mount and stream, to strand.

5.

The Blue reflects the crowding stars,
Bright union-emblem of the free;
Come, all of ye, and let it wave—
That floating piece of poetry.

6.

Our fathers came and planted fields,
And manly Law, and schools and truth;
They planted Self-Rule, which we'll guard
By word and sword, in age and youth.

7.

Broad freedom came along with them
On History's ever-widening wings.
Our blessing this, our task and toil;
For "arduous are all noble things."

8.

Let never Emp'rour rule this land,
Nor fitful Crowd, nor senseless Pride.
Our Master is our self-made Law;
To *him* we bow, and none beside.

9.

Then sing and shout for our free land,
For glorious FREELAND'S victory;
Pray that in turmoil and in peace
FREELAND our land may ever be;

10.

That faithful we be found and strong
When History builds as corals build,
Or when she rears her granite walls—
Her moles with crimson mortar filled.





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